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<https://scale.qihardware.org>

2019 . Week 15 . Apr 14 - Apr 25

This page left intentionally blank
to power your imagination
of what interesting art, ads,
sponsorship, standard
frontmatter or blank space
should be included in
future editions of scale.

一 yī

一 yī is the numeral 1.

The simplest Chinese character and one of the easiest to pronounce. Truly, 一 yī are one. 一 yī is easily changed into the next numerals in Chinese. From Wikipedia: https://enwp.org/Chinese_numerals

Editors Column

Call for Participation

Jon Phillips, jon@rejon.org, <https://rejon.org>

HELLO! This week's Scale 15 has three writings, all written by me. While that shows I have found a way to write more often, it also demonstrates I have neglected to find ways to get others on-board with writing.

So, this is a Call for Participation. If you have a writing to share, please do. Also, I ask to you dear reader, why are you not writing? Do you need energy? Have you stopped writing because you make fragmented pieces of texts on multiple phones while hopping flights (like I used to)? Is Scale not the right format for you? Is the timing not good? Or maybe you have never heard of Scale or do not see it as an opportunity to write?

Your editors are listening.

Regardless, Scale Journal continues to improve and is released weekly, even if the release date wanders a bit ;)

In this issue 𐌆 yī, or 1, the first all brand new from scratch written issue of Scale, I released a timeline of Bassel Khartabil's life. This is a start, but it lives here in this repository and is for others to improve or comment on. Yes, there are alternative histories to Bassel's life, so this one serves as a written one for comment and knowledge building.

The second writing, after the death of Bassel Khartabil and launch of the fellowship in his name, I decided to move my home in the United States from the Old Bay Area, San Francisco, to Saint Louis, the frontlines of America and the center of where I grew up, born in Effingham, Illinois and incubated in Columbia, Missouri. My idea was that it is better to be close to the core of America than to be at the extremes of the coasts. AND, I am extremely happy for

this decision.

As part of that consolidation, I launched, along with longtime friend Barry Threw and newer friend, Saint Louis' own, Tyler Mathews, the Fabricatorz Foundation. One of the projects that came from the foundation is O.N.G., short for Only Next Generation. We brought DJ collective NAAFI from Mexico City last year on April 27, 2018 and paired with local talent, Eric Donte, Hayden Molinarolo and more.

This Saturday, a year later on April 27, 2019, O.N.G.2 pre-saged by a Breakerspace BS2K by the nearly overflowing Mississippi River is a digital happening. There is so much happening, that I decided to make a model for it, called the "BREAK-IN." The writing and details about how to fund local artist's work in a one night gallery. The specification is shared in a writing in this week's Scale 15.

Please enjoy! Look forward to reading other peoples work in Scale 16 and forward :)

Submit your original work by joining
<https://t.me/qihardware>

The Secret Origin of Bassel Khartabil The Open Source Open Hardware Developer

Jon Phillips, jon@rejon.org 1.0, 2019-04-25

Bassel opened the internet in the Arab world. His life and legacy goes beyond software. He knew that software was easy to control and runs on hardware. He believed people should be empowered. Technically, this means you must own your hardware in order to trust who commands it to do what. So he also invested into open hardware projects. He was the first to buy the first open hardware platform, Qi Nanonote and the first to buy the Qi Milkymist, the first bitcoin miner. Bassel's ethos and cultural DNA is interwoven in cryptocurrency and the questions he wrestled with, dying in service of, are still unsolved. Yet again, we need Bassel, but he was executed unjustly in the country he loved, Syria. We are left with his philosophies on nonviolent communication, scientific inquiry, service to family and friends, and plain being a cool guy. His writings and artwork are our guide. It is now our job. We are Bassel.

Timeline

Much has been written about Bassel. This is an attempt to keep a longer term updated list of major Bassel Khartabil moments written down. If you have a data point or an update to this timeline, please send edit or pull request. @rejon

1981

- Bassel Born, Damascus, Syria

1991

- Learned English from CD-ROM on dad's computer

1997

- Got computer (Faraj Rifai), Gift from Mother

2001

- Bassel begins work on Palmyra 3D Reconstruction, with Khaled al-Asaad
- January 15, 2001: Creative Commons Launched

2003

- November 2, 2003: Inkscape is born.

2004

- 2004: Openclipart is born.
- 2004: Openclipart Call for Participation
- 2004: Bassel meets Jon in IRC, @rejon meets @bassel
- 2004: Bassel Responds with gift, software patch

2005

- 2005: WRONG date from Wired article: Aikilab Opened in Damascus

2006

- November 7, 2006: Openmoko Launched

2007

2008

2009

- University of Damascus, Open Art and Technology
- Bassel convinces Al Jazeera to release footage under CC license
- October/November: First hackerspace proposal “SAMA Lab” applied for Berkman MEPI proposal
- Qi Hardware starts

2010

- January: SAMA Lab proposal denied, changed hackerspace name to Aikilab
 - first hackerspace in Arab World/Middle East

- Qi Hardware Ben Nanonote launched (first open source computer)
- Qi Hardware Milkymist launched (first bitcoin miner)

2011

- Arab Spring erupted
- Aikilab closed by Syrian security forces, equipment stolen
- April 2011: Noura and Bassel meet in Douma
- September, Creative Commons Warsaw, last time Bassel seen
- December 2011: United Nations reports 5,000 Syrians killed
- December 17, Bassel tweets: “They can’t stop us #Syria”

2012

- March 15: Bassel Detained by Syrian Military Intelligence
- Imprisoned in Saydnaya Prison
- DATE CHECK: Freebassel Campaign launched
- October 2012: Amnesty International released document suggesting Bassel was tortured
- 23 October: Amnesty International Taiwan runs letter writing campaign
- 26 November: Bassel on Foreign Policy Top 100 Global Thinkers list.
- 9 December 2012, Khartabil was brought before a military prosecutor who charged him with “spying for an enemy State. (WP)

2013

- Syrian government used chemical weapons on civilians in East Ghouta
- NEED DATE: 2013 Bassel meets in prison, filmmaker Wael Saad al-Deen
- 15 March: 1st #FREEBASSELDAY
- 22 May: Bassel’s birthday and launch of Project Sunlight to put big spotlight on his situation
- 21 March: Index on Censorship’s Digital Freedom

Award, sponsored by Google

- NEED DATE: Karl Fogel's Producing Open Source Software, by Bassel (unreleased)
- NEED DATE: Lawrence Lessig's Free Culture, translated by Bassel (unreleased)
- 12 December: European Parliament to the Commission (Vice-President/High Representative) raised Bassel issue.

2014

- 23 January: Marc Weidenbaum, Djunto on Bassel creates 38 musical pieces
- 2014, ISIS declared a "caliphate" headquartered in Raqqa
- US-led coalition began bombing Iraq and Syria
- 15 March: FREEBASSELDAY Wikipedia Edit-a-thon
- 18 March: European Parliament to the Commission publishes written statement
- Late 2015: New Palmyra, Institute for Digital Archaeology began contributing to the New Palmyra Project (WP)

2015

- Syrian refugee crisis, which had already overwhelmed neighboring countries Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan, spilled into the Mediterranean, with thousands of migrants—many of them Syrian, many of them children—dying in the sea.
- Feb 14 (valentines day): Noura makes public love letter she wrote to Bassel
- 21 April, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) says Bassel was "arbitrarily" detained.
- May: Islamic State extremist group destroyed Palmyra's most precious monuments and al-Asaad, the archaeologist with whom Khartabil had collaborated to make his replica of the ancient site, was beheaded in a public square
- October 3: Disappeared (Wael was with Bassel when this happened)
- October 3: Bassel moved to unknown location with a 'top secret' sealed order from the Military Field Court

- October 6: Amnesty International releases status update on Bassel
- October 7: A day later, Human Rights Watch and 30 other human rights organizations issued a letter demanding that Khartabil's whereabouts be disclosed
- October 17: Creative Commons Board of Directors, approved resolution calling for Khartabil's release.
- October 21: New Palmyra Project launched
- October 22: MIT Media Lab offered Khartabil a position of research scientist at the Center for Civic Media to work with Ethan Zuckerman
- October: Executed (but unknown until Aug 1, 2017)
- November 9: The Cost of Freedom: A Collective Inquiry book released

2016

- New Palmyra: 12-ton lifesize replica of part of the Arch of Triumph was carved into stone, London's Trafalgar Square in 2016
- New Palmyra: 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale

2017

- May 2: New Palmyra, Tetrapylon by Bassel launched at CC Summit Toronto
- August 1, 2017: Noura Ghazi confirms Bassel's death.
- August 11, 2017: Wikimedia/Wikipedia Announce Creation of Bassel Khartabil Free Culture Fellowship

2018

- February 7/8: Bassel Khartabil Free Culture Fellowship Announced
- Feb 2018: New Palmyra, first 3d model uploaded to Wikimedia/Wikipedia, Asad Al-Lat
- April 15: First Bassel Fellow Announced, Majd Al-shihabi

2019

- May: Majd Al-shihabi keynote at CC Summit

Sources

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bassel_Khartabil
- <https://www.wired.com/story/how-one-syrian-fought-to-the-death-for-a-free-internet/>
- <https://basselkhartabil.org/2018/04/15/first-fellowship-awarded.html>

TODO

- Add references to the statements
- Compare to older timeline.freebassel.org



Fabricatorz Foundation's O.N.G.2 Connects Artists with Patrons and Funding

Apr 24, 2019 • Walter Ong

PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release.

Saint Louis — Wednesday, April 24, 2019 — Today Fabricatorz Foundation's O.N.G. invented a new model for how to fund artists called a "break-in". O.N.G., pronounced Only Next Generation, announced that the upcoming O.N.G.2 on Saturday, April 27 is the first application of the "break-in" model for connecting artists with patrons and funding through grants selected on the night of the event.

O.N.G. Released the following "break-in" specification:

Donate Art. Buy Ticket. Fund Grant.

O.N.G.2 is the first BREAK-IN, a model whereby people must break into the space for collaboration for a One Night Gathering. There are three ways to BREAK-IN to the O.N.G.2 art economy:

I am an Artist: Donate Art.

- Bring Artwork.
- Get Access.
- Receive Grant.

- RSVP.

I want an Experience: Buy Ticket.

- Buy Access.
- Experience Music
- Experience Artwork.
- \$10 (online) (OR) \$12 (door).

I am a Patron: Fund Grants.

- Support Artists.
- Decide Grantees.
- Get Art.
- \$314+ (online/on-site)

Schedule

- 09.00pm DOORS Open + Artwork Placement Begins
- 09.00pm **T.J.MAXXX** (debut sets by Tj Hughes & Real Boy Eternity)
- 10.00pm **Failed Shape** (debut performance)
- 10.45pm **DJ Taye** (Teklife/Chicago)
- 11.00pm Artwork Placement ENDS (artwork entry ends)
- 12.00am GRANTS ANNOUNCED
- 12.45am **GRRL** (NTS/Durham)
- 12.45am **Biota DJ Crew** - Ekse/Namatamago/Jake Leech (STL)

Experience

- Designed by **Tj Hughes, Ann Johnson, Maxwell Foley**, Justin Enoch & **Breakerspace Artists**.
- Artwork Curated by **Barry Threw**
- Music Curated by **Tyler Mathews**

Bringing Artwork?

- **What type of Artwork?** Any type you may justify, including broadly Music and performance. But note, live performance must be done during the event and music will be playing.

- Bring your artwork to the door for review by art critics from either 1-6pm during Breakerspace at **Biota** or at the door from 9pm until 11 pm.
- Ranked grant payouts from the pool will be decided by the Patrons and announced at midnight.
- Art Critique at entry by **Lee Kratzer, Sarah Myers, Jon Phillips**.
- Upon acceptance, you will receive a ticket for entry and then may work with a curator on placing your artwork in the space for review by patrons.
- If your artwork is denied, you may rework your artwork or concept up to two more times (OR) you may buy a ticket (OR) become a patron.
- Artists are encouraged to come to Breakerspace on-site at Biota in Laclede's Landing from 1-6 PM in order to work on projects alongside experience designers Tj Hughes, Ann Johnshon, Maxwell Foley, Justin Enoch, Jon Phillips, Barry Threw and Tyler Mathews.

Artist Grants

- The first donor and patron for the O.N.G.2 Artist Grant Pool is Barry Threw.
- Each time someone becomes a patron or donates a specific dollar amount for the Grant Pool, the amount in USD of the Grant Pool on the main page of <https://ong.gg> increases.
- You may donate here: <https://ong.gg/donate>
- The donors and patrons who attend O.N.G.2 decide how much is paid out to each artist, and every participating artist receives some payout.

For More Information

- Friday, April 27, 2019
- **Biota**, Laclede's Landing, Saint Louis, Missouri, USA
- Optional On-site Breakerspace Art Making 1 PM - 6 PM
- O.N.G.2 BREAK-IN Main Event 9 PM - 2 AM
- BUY Tickets online discounted (OR) at the door with Card.
- <http://ong.gg>

About O.N.G.

O.N.G. is a One Night Gathering. Only in Saint Louis. Only Experienced Once. Only New Music. Only New Art. Designed for the Night. Always Last

Minute. Always Realtime. Only Next Generation. <https://ong.gg>

About Fabricatorz Foundation

Fabricatorz Foundation is a St. Louis based non-profit supporting creative technologists and emerging cultural practitioners with community-focused initiatives that drive innovation through art, technology, and culture. The Foundation is made up of a team who have led projects for Fortune 500 companies, A-list international artists, top museums, galleries, and educational institutions around the world. <https://fabricatorz.org>

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